

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 168-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: July 7, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge", written over the printed name of the City Manager.

Subject: RECIPIENT OF STATE OF FLORIDA ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY INCENTIVE

The City's Tourism and Cultural Development Department (TCD) Office of Film and Print is pleased to announce that the first ever recipient of the State of Florida's Entertainment Industry Incentive is a feature film set to film in Miami and Miami Beach.

The 2004 Florida Legislature appropriated the Entertainment Industry Incentive with a budget line item of \$2.45 Million. The Incentive program offers film, television, commercial, industrial and music video productions a cash incentive for qualified Florida expenditures while filming in the State of Florida. For a feature film, the production may apply for up to 15% of qualified Florida expenditures back, up to \$2 Million. The State of Florida Office of Film and Entertainment accepted applications for the incentive starting June 15 and reviewed the applicants who were prioritized on a first come first serve basis.

The first project submitted and approved for \$2 Million is entitled "The Transporter 2," the sequel to the 20th Century Fox action movie "The Transporter." The film stars British actor Jason Statham and world class model Amber Valetta. Internationally celebrated filmmaker Luc Besson ("La Femme Nikita," "The Fifth Element") is a producer and writer of the project. This is a European co-production with Fox that would not be filming in the United States if not for the State Incentive. The film is budgeted at \$22 Million and is set for an eight week shoot, starting July 26. All out of town cast and crew are staying at The Shore Club. The majority of the crew and many actors in the movie are locals.

The City of Miami Beach Office of Film and Print has been instrumental in luring this project to Miami and Miami Beach. Graham Winick, the Film and Print Coordinator, met with the producers in Los Angeles in April after many months of phone conversations, and maintained an open communication with the producers to assist them with scouting needs and up to date information about the Entertainment Industry Incentive. The TCD Office of Film and Print also assisted the production in getting their package to Tallahassee in the most expedient manner to help secure the incentive for this feature.

RECEIVED
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
OFFICE OF FILM AND PRINT
JUL 16 2004

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c: Christina M. Cuervo, Assistant City Manager
Max Sklar, Acting Tourism and Cultural Development Director
Graham Winick, Film and Print Coordinator